

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A method of keeping a refreshed image from a camera on a user's
2 system, the method comprising:
3 sending the image to the user's system;
4 refreshing the image when a refresh period has elapsed; and
5 after a period of time, decreasing a frequency of the refresh.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the frequency of the refresh is
2 decreased along an exponential curve.
- 1 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the refreshes are stopped after a
2 period of time has elapsed.
- 1 4. The method of claim 1, further comprising:
2 determining if it is time to decrease the frequency of the refresh; and
3 if it is time to decrease the frequency of the refresh, decrease the frequency
4 of the refresh.
- 1 5. The method of claim 4, wherein determining if it is time to decrease
2 the frequency of the refresh comprises determining that a set time has elapsed.
- 1 6. The method of claim 4, wherein determining if it is time to decrease
2 the frequency of the refresh comprises determining that a window displaying the
3 image is not visible to the user.
- 1 7. The method of claim 1, wherein the determination whether to

2 decrease the frequency of the refresh is periodically evaluated.

1 8. The method of claim 7, wherein a period to evaluate the
2 determination whether to decrease the frequency of the refresh is greater than
3 the refresh period of the image.

1 9. The method of claim 7, wherein the determination whether to
2 decrease the frequency of the refresh occurs concurrently with a refresh cycle.

1 10. The method of claim 7, wherein the determination whether to
2 decrease the frequency of the refresh is made when a timer reaches a preset
3 value.

1 11. The method of claim 7, wherein a determination whether it is time
2 to decrease the frequency of the refresh is made when a counter reaches a preset
3 value.

1 12. An apparatus to keeping a refreshed image from a camera on a
2 user's system, the apparatus comprising:
3 a network connection to send the image to the user's system;
4 a refresh logic to refresh the image when a refresh period has elapsed; and
5 a refresh rate logic to determine whether the refresh period should be
6 changed, and if to increase the refresh period.

1 13. The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the frequency of the refresh is
2 decreased along an exponential curve.

1 14. The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the refresh period is set to
2 infinity after a period of time has elapsed, to stop refreshing the image.

1 15. The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the refresh rate logic includes a
2 timer, the refresh rate monitor to determine that it is time to decrease the
3 frequency of the refresh when a time set by the timer is elapsed.

1 16. The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the refresh rate logic includes
2 an activity monitor, the activity monitor to determine that if it is time to decrease
3 the frequency of the refresh comprises when a window displaying the image is
4 not visible to the user.

1 17. The apparatus of claim 12, wherein the refresh rate logic is further
2 to periodically evaluate whether to decrease the frequency of the refresh.

1 18. The apparatus of claim 17, wherein the determination whether to
2 decrease the frequency of the refresh occurs concurrently with a refresh cycle.